flavour of wine, deſcanting on the ſauces moſt proper for turtle; or, more profoundly intent at a card-table, he may be generalizing his ideas as he bets away his fortune, leaving all the *minutiæ* of education to his helpmate or to chance.

But, granting that woman ought to be beautiful, innocent, and ſilly, to render her a more alluring and indulgent companion;—what is her underſtanding ſacrificed for? And why is all this preparation neceſſary only, according to Rouſſeau's own account, to make her the miſtreſs of her huſband, a very ſhort time? For no man ever inſiſted more on the tranſient nature of love. Thus ſpeaks the philoſopher. 'Senſual pleaſures are tranſient. 'The habitual ſtate of the affections al- 'ways loſe by their gratification. The ima- 'gination, which decks the object of our 'deſires, is loſt in fruition. Excepting the 'Supreme Being, who is ſelf-exiſtent, there 'is nothing beautiful but what is ideal.'

But he returns to his unintelligible paradoxes again, when he thus addreſſes Sophia. 'Emilius, in becoming your huſband, is 'become your maſter; and claims your obe- 'dience. Such is the order of nature. When 'a man is married, however, to ſuch a wife 'as

'as Sophia, it is proper he ſhould be directed 'by her: this is alſo agreeable to the order 'of nature: it is, therefore, to give you as 'much authority over his heart as his ſex 'gives him over your perſon, that I have 'made you the arbiter of his pleaſures. It 'may coſt you, perhaps, ſome diſagreeable 'ſelf-denial; but you will be certain of main- 'taining your empire over him, if you can 'preſerve it over yourſelf—what I have al- 'ready obſerved, alſo, ſhows me, that this 'difficult attempt does not ſurpaſs your 'courage.

'Would you have your huſband con- 'ſtantly at your feet? keep him at ſome 'diſtance from your perſon. You will long 'maintain the authority in love, if you know 'but how to render your favours rare and 'valuable. It is thus you may employ even 'the arts of coquetry in the ſervice of virtue, 'and thoſe of love in that of reaſon.'

I ſhall cloſe my extracts with a juſt deſcription of a comfortable couple. 'And yet 'you muſt not imagine, that even ſuch ma- 'nagement will always ſuffice. Whatever 'precaution be taken, enjoyment will, by 'degrees, take off the edge of paſſion. But